

# CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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## **Westly Comments on Nonpartisan LAO Budget Overview**

SACRAMENTO – California State Controller Steve Westly today issued the following statement regarding the Legislative Analyst's Office overview of the Governor's 2005-2006 proposed State Budget:

"The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst is right in voicing serious concerns about the Governor's automatic spending control proposal.

"Late budgets frustrate everyone. But 'autopilot' slashes in state services and mechanical across-the-board cuts will hurt the state's most vulnerable, including seniors and schoolchildren.

"As the state's CFO, my role is to keep vital services intact until policymakers work out a compromise. We look to our leaders to make the tough choices.

"Although we need to get serious about structural reform, we need to avoid automatically slamming the brakes on Californians that need government's help."

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